

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A fowl retention system, comprising:

a protective structure, wherein a fowl uses the protective structure as a sanctuary and as a shelter, the protective structure, comprising:

a roof assembly including an impervious sheet that shields the fowl from the elements,

a plurality of uprights that suspend the roof assembly above the ground,

a horizontal support secured between adjacent uprights, wherein the horizontal supports stabilize the adjacent uprights,

a radial support secured between the ground and either an upright or a horizontal support, wherein the radial supports stabilize the uprights and the horizontal supports,

a circumferential support secured between all but one of adjacent radial supports, whereby the adjacent radial supports without a circumferential support secured thereto provide access to the protective structure,

a cap support secured to the horizontal supports, and

a cover placed over the circumferential supports and the cap support;

a habitat strip disposed near the protective structure, wherein the fowl use the habitat strip for nesting; and

a station comprising a water supply, wherein the fowl establish a territory around the water supply, and further wherein the fowl utilize the protective structure and the habitat strip such that they do not migrate to another location.

Claim 2 (original): The fowl retention system according to claim 1, wherein the food items from the habitat strip are the primary source of food for the fowl.

Claim 3 (original): The fowl retention system according to claim 1, wherein the fowl also utilize the habitat strip for cover.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The fowl retention system according to claim 1, wherein the protective structure further comprises a skirt placed between the ground and at least one side of the roof assembly.

Claims 5-7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (previously presented): The fowl retention system according to claim 1, wherein the cover is a natural vegetative cover.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The fowl retention system according to claim 1, wherein the cover is of a man-made material.

Claim 10 (original): The fowl retention system according to claim 1, wherein the habitat strip is a plowed and planted portion of earth.

Claim 11 (original): The fowl retention system according to claim 10, wherein the habitat strip is planted with native grasses.

Claim 12 (original): The fowl retention system according to claim 11, wherein the native grasses produce seeds at varying times of the year such that there is always a supply of food for the fowl.

Claim 13 (original): The fowl retention system according to claim 1, wherein the station includes a barrier assembly to keep large animals away from the water supply.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The fowl retention system according to claim 13, wherein the barrier assembly further comprises a door panel utilized by an operator during setup and maintenance.

Claim 15 (original): The fowl retention system according to claim 14, wherein the barrier assembly permits entry of fowl therethrough and restricts entry of larger animals.

Claim 16 (original): The fowl retention system according to claim 14, wherein the barrier assembly further comprises a roof panel to protect components located within the barrier assembly.

Claim 17 (original): The fowl retention system according to claim 13, wherein the water supply is housed within the barrier assembly.

Claim 18 (original): The fowl retention system according to claim 16, wherein the water supply is housed beneath the roof panel for protection from the elements.

Claim 19 (original): The fowl retention system according to claim 1, wherein the water supply comprises:

- a trough;

- a storage tank containing a water; and

- a float valve disposed on the trough and in fluid communication with the storage tank, wherein water disposed in the storage tank flows through the float valve to the trough when the water level in the trough is below the desired level, and further wherein the water does not flow through the float valve when the water level in the trough is at or above the desired level, thereby continuously maintaining the water level in the trough.

Claim 20 (original): The fowl retention system according to claim 19, further comprising:

- a stand to support the storage tank and keep the tank elevated above the trough.

Claim 21 (original): The fowl retention system according to claim 19, wherein the trough further comprises a ramp disposed in the trough, wherein the fowl that fall into the water exit the water by walking up the ramp.

Claim 22 (original): The fowl retention system according to claim 20, wherein the trough assembly is cantilevered off the front end of the stand assembly such that insects cannot climb to the water in the trough.

Claims 23-24 (canceled).

Claim 25 (previously presented): The fowl feeding device according to claim 1, wherein the station further comprises a fowl feeding device.

Claims 26-47 (canceled).